

# EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

## TRIBUTE TO CAROLE HAAS

### HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 13, 2007

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Ms. Carole Haas for her service to our community.

When Carole Haas read a newspaper report about a young mother who left her baby in a dumpster, she vowed to make a difference. With four young children at home, she opened Bridgeway in 1986 to support young pregnant women.

The facility provides shelter, counseling, life skill classes and complete support for young women age 16 to 21 during and after pregnancy. The residents must either attend school or hold a job.

For the first 15 years, Ms. Haas managed all the residents herself. She now has the help of a staff. Carole Haas continues to dedicate herself to overseeing what has grown to be a thriving, sustainable non-profit that has assisted 525 young women.

As the founder and director of Bridgeway, Ms. Haas has devoted her life to providing compassion, love and support to young pregnant women during a highly vulnerable time in their lives.

## PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 3996, TEMPORARY TAX RELIEF ACT OF 2007

SPEECH OF

### HON. JOHN D. DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 9, 2007

Mr. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to support the Temporary Tax Relief Act, a much-needed piece of legislation that will provide relief to millions of working families across the country.

The tax bill before us is a far cry from the irresponsible tax cuts my Republican colleagues have supported in the past. While their tax plan permitted hundreds of wealthy Americans to construct new wings for their summer homes and add new sports cars to their garages, our tax plan provides financial relief to millions of working-class Americans. The alternative minimum tax was never meant to harm the hard-working middle-class families of America, but unfortunately, years of wage inflation and economic change have placed an enormous burden on the shoulders of these families. While my Republican colleagues have spent the past decade providing the wealthiest Americans with new yachts, these middle-class families have been crying out for help, a cry that this Congress will finally address here today.

Without this legislation, 23 million working-class families will be subjugated to the Alternative Minimum Tax. My colleagues have

made a proposal that will not only provide relief to these Americans, but will do it in a responsible manner. Unlike the reckless tax cuts that were brazenly supported by the President, this tax proposal will not burden our children and grandchildren with debt. This tax bill is completely revenue-neutral.

I urge my colleagues to stand before the American people and demonstrate where this Congress' priorities lie. Are we fighting for a handful of wealthy millionaires while the middle-class families languish with an incredible tax burden? Or are we with 23 million hard-working American families across the country, including more than 61,000 in Michigan's 15th Congressional District? I urge my colleagues to support the middle-class families and support this bill.

## A PROCLAMATION HONORING LINDA MORROW AS THE 2007 OHIO PROFESSOR OF THE YEAR

### HON. ZACHARY T. SPACE

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 13, 2007

Mr. SPACE. Madam Speaker:

Whereas, Linda Morrow challenges and inspires her students and colleagues; and

Whereas, Linda Morrow has been a dedicated faculty member of Muskingum College since 1988; and

Whereas, Linda Morrow has been an outstanding instructor of education; and

Whereas, Linda Morrow is recognized for her contribution to the today's students; be it Resolved that along with his friends, family, and the residents of the 18th Congressional District, I congratulate Linda Morrow for her service and dedication.

## TRIBUTE TO DAWN GIFFORD ENGLE

### HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 13, 2007

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Ms. Dawn Gifford Engle for her service to our community.

Eleven years ago, Dawn Gifford Engle and her husband cofounded PeaceJam, which coordinates educational programs to inspire young people to provide peaceful solutions to the root causes of violence and suffering in the world. So far, half a million young people from the United States to East Timor have created and implemented 300,000 community projects. Dawn is committed to increase the number of young people inspired by PeaceJam to one billion by the year 2016.

In 2006, the Arvada resident brought the world to Denver when the PeaceJam Foundation celebrated its 10th anniversary here. The

Dalai Lama, Archbishop Desmond Tutu and other Nobel Peace Prize Laureates attended the program.

## PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 3996, TEMPORARY TAX RELIEF ACT OF 2007

SPEECH OF

### HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 9, 2007

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 3996, the Temporary Tax Relief Act of 2007.

The Temporary Tax Relief Act will provide immediate tax relief for working families by preventing 23 million middle class families from paying higher taxes this April. Without this legislation, these 23 million families will be subjected to the alternative minimum tax, including almost 111,000 of my constituents.

When the AMT was enacted, it was meant to ensure the wealthiest among us paid their fair share of a tax that was never designed to hit the pocketbooks of middle-class families. While this is only a temporary fix, I want to be clear that I hope we can move forward in the near future to provide a long-term solution to this problem. I am proud that Chairman RANGEL has brought this fix to the floor today while still adhering to the pay-as-you-go promise this Democratic controlled Congress has promised the American people.

While fixing the AMT is of outmost importance, we cannot afford to mortgage our children's and grandchildren's future to pay for this tax relief. Our country is currently burdened with over \$9 trillion of national debt, each American's share at nearly \$30,000.

We simply cannot afford to keep adding to this. In addition to the AMT fix, this bill would increase the eligibility for the refundable child tax credit, it extends research and development tax credits to promote innovative and high-paying jobs, and we are providing tax relief to millions of homeowners suffering from the current subprime mortgage crisis.

One concern that I do have with this legislation is the potential that the change to the taxation of "carried interest" may have the unintended consequence of capturing certain real estate partnerships.

We should not treat capital gains in real estate partnerships as ordinary income. These partnerships invest their own capital and should continue to be taxed at the capital gains rate.

I have joined a group of my colleagues asking for report language to clarify this issue and I hope that this concern will be addressed before final implementation of this legislation.

Mr. Speaker, the Democrats in Congress are providing common sense tax relief for middle class American families and we are doing

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

it in a fiscally responsible way. I urge this bill's adoption.

**A PROCLAMATION HONORING  
JOHN DECKER FOR HIS SERVICE  
IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY**

**HON. ZACHARY T. SPACE**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 13, 2007*

Mr. SPACE. Madam Speaker:

Whereas, John Decker served in the United States Navy from 1952–1954; and

Whereas, he has served as a member of the color guard for military funerals; and

Whereas, John Decker is saluted for his bravery and service; now, therefore, be it

Resolved that along with his friends, family, and the residents of the 18th Congressional District, I commend and thank John Decker for his contributions to his community and country.

**TRIBUTE TO HANNAH HAYES**

**HON. ED PERLMUTTER**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 13, 2007*

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Ms. Hannah Hayes for her service to our community.

Hannah Hayes is deeply dedicated to helping people restore their lives to a healthy creative balance through oriental medicine. In 1993, she and her husband Donn started Oriental Herb Company, known as OHCO, in Evergreen. Cold Snap, Eye Ching and all their other products are created by Donn, who is an acupuncturist with extensive training in Chinese herbology. Ms. Hayes runs all facets of operating the business, from manufacturing to marketing and shipping.

Hannah Hayes enthusiastically teaches others about the benefits of listening to their bodies, evaluating their lifestyles, and exploring ways to live healthy balanced lives.

Ms. Hayes remarks, "It's rewarding when a customer calls and has had some incredible insight about how to customize our general formulas into their own particular needs."

Hannah Hayes teaches creative balance through Chamber of Commerce gatherings, presentations at health food stores, and a column in the local weekly.

**TRIBUTE TO GERALDINE R.  
GENNET GENERAL COUNSEL TO  
THE HOUSE**

**HON. J. DENNIS HASTERT**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 13, 2007*

Mr. HASTERT. Madam Speaker, I rise today to say thank you to Geraldine R. Gennet who is resigning as House Counsel, after serving in that office for more than 12 years.

When I was Speaker, it was my privilege to oversee the institutional offices which help make the U.S. House of Representatives func-

tion on a daily basis. The house counsel, like the Parliamentarian, legislative counsel, and other institutional offices, serve the House behind the scenes but are essential to its operations. All these offices are non-partisan, and that tradition is important to maintain, so that no matter which party controls the House, its operations are viewed as professional and non-partisan.

Geraldine Gennet certainly carried on that tradition. She and her office gave the Speaker's office and the Bipartisan Legal Advisory Group advice that reflected the precedents and practices of those that went before us, but also the appropriate legal advice to address today's issues and problems. It was not legal advice calculated to advance a political goal or agenda. Rather, Geraldine's advice reflected her unbiased reading of the law and her best legal judgment. When the House's institutional interests were at stake, her advice was designed to further those institutional interests and protect the legislative branch's central place in our constitutional structure as envisioned by the Founding Fathers.

Geraldine and her staff were particularly helpful in the aftermath of the FBI's unprecedented raid on a congressional office last year. She was instrumental in negotiating with the executive branch in an effort to resolve the constitutional stand-off amicably. When those negotiations ultimately failed, she then assisted the House leadership in charting its course through the litigation that followed. We particularly relied on Geraldine and her office for advice on significant institutional issues of this nature, and they always did an excellent job. This House owes Geraldine and her staff a debt of gratitude.

I wish Geraldine well in her future endeavors and thank her for her service to the U.S. House of Representatives.

**A PROCLAMATION HONORING JACK  
EVERETT FOR HIS SERVICE IN  
THE UNITED STATES ARMY**

**HON. ZACHARY T. SPACE**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 13, 2007*

Mr. SPACE. Madam Speaker:

Whereas, Jack Everett served in the United States Army from 1967–1969; and

Whereas, he was inducted into the Military Hall of Fame; and

Whereas, Jack Everett has received two Purple Hearts; and

Whereas, he is the recipient of the Bronze Star; now, therefore, be it

Resolved that along with his friends, family, and the residents of the 18th Congressional District, I commend and thank Jack Everett for his contributions to his community and country.

**HONORING MS. SYLVIA BROCKNER**

**HON. ED PERLMUTTER**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 13, 2007*

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Ms. Sylvia Brockner for her service to our community.

Wildlife, nature, and open spaces are the focus of Sylvia Brockner's community leadership. "Anytime I help save land, I'm pleased," she states. "It's a legacy for future generations."

Sylvia Brockner brought with her the conservation and naturalist leadership expertise she honed as chairperson of the Western New York Chapter of The Nature Conservancy. She was instrumental in organizing the Mountain Area Land Trust, which she likens to a local Nature Conservancy. A lifelong bird watcher, she helped establish the annual Christmas Bird Count, and in 1978 she and her husband founded the local Audubon Society.

Sylvia successfully lobbied the Army Corps of Engineers to protect the wetlands at Evergreen Lake. She also helped convince JeffCo Open Space to preserve Lair O'The Bear Park in Bear Creek Canyon.

For 30 years, she has written and illustrated the Canyon Courier's weekly feature about nature, instilling her passion in her readers.

**PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION  
OF H.R. 3996, TEMPORARY TAX  
RELIEF ACT OF 2007**

SPEECH OF

**HON. WALLY HERGER**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, November 9, 2007*

Mr. HERGER. Mr. Speaker, although I have serious concerns with the underlying bill, H.R. 3996, there are several provisions of this bill that extend necessary business and individual tax relief set to expire this year.

One provision in H.R. 3996 would extend important tax relief for individuals who choose to make distributions from their Individual Retirement Accounts, IRAs, to charities. Charitable IRA rollovers greatly help the work of worthy charities, and it is important that this tool for giving remains available to taxpayers. I have introduced stand-alone legislation with Congressman EARL POMEROY of North Dakota, which has 90 cosponsors that would broaden the charitable IRA rollover rule to allow distributions to donor-advised funds and would strengthen other aspects of the present-law provision. I remain committed to the enactment of the improvements included in the Public Good IRA Rollover Act, H.R. 1419, that would work to encourage billions in new giving to those who need it most.

This legislation also includes a provision that extends the Research and Development Tax Credit for an additional year. Firms in California already conduct nearly one-quarter of all our Nation's R&D activities by dollar value, making this credit critical to California's leadership in high tech innovation. I am a strong supporter of this provision, and am a cosponsor of stand alone legislation that would make important improvements in the R&D credit and extend it permanently, H.R. 2138.

H.R. 3996 also includes a 1-year delay of the 3 percent withholding burden on contractors that work with governments, which is scheduled to take effect starting in 2011. Earlier this year I introduced legislation with Representative KENDRICK MEEK of Florida that would do away with this added withholding requirement before it starts. Together, we have

worked to inform other representatives about the potentially damaging effects of this new cost of doing business with governments, and our legislation has attracted over 230 cosponsors, H.R. 1023.

Despite my opposition to the overarching legislation, I sincerely hope members of both parties can continue to work in a bipartisan fashion—as we have done on these three issues to-date. It is important that we move ahead with this important individual and business tax relief through legislation members from both parties can support, and not in the context of controversial new tax increases on the American people.

#### A PROCLAMATION HONORING THE DEDICATION OF CAMP SHERMAN GATE POST

##### HON. ZACHARY T. SPACE

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 13, 2007*

Mr. SPACE. Madam Speaker:

Whereas, Camp Sherman became a military camp for local soldiers on June 8, 1917; and Whereas, the camp would come to serve over 40,000 soldiers; and

Whereas, Camp Sherman trained soldiers, nursed them back to health and instructed them on agricultural issues; and

Whereas, the gates at Camp Sherman are dedicated for those that have passed through them, for those men that have borne the battle; now, therefore, be it

Resolved that along with his friends, family, and the residents of the 18th Congressional District, I applaud Camp Sherman and honor the soldiers that have entered through the post.

#### TRIBUTE TO MS. DING-WEN HSU

##### HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 13, 2007*

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Ms. Ding-Wen Hsu for her service to our community.

Ms. Ding-Wen Hsu enriches both the economic and cultural well-being of our community. She is cofounder and majority shareholder of Pacific Western Technologies Ltd., one of the fastest growing companies in Colorado. She is also a founder of the Colorado Dragon Boat Festival and actively involved in her family foundation, the International Multi-Cultural Institute.

As a national fellow of the Asian Pacific American Women's Leadership Institute, she attended a training program that focused on self-discovery. "I discovered that I need to lead and make a difference," Ding-Wen comments. "I feel very fortunate that I got to live in two very different cultures. I felt I should use my gift."

She does so primarily through her community endeavors. The Colorado Dragon Boat Festival, for example, offers a unique cultural experience that builds awareness, knowledge and understanding among the diverse Asian communities. The mission of the International Multi-Cultural Institute is to promote harmony, eliminate prejudice and discrimination, combat

community deterioration, and defend human and civil rights.

#### HONORING COLUMBUS HOUSE, INCORPORATED AS IT CELEBRATES ITS 25TH ANNIVERSARY

##### HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 13, 2007*

Ms. DELAURO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to join the New Haven community in celebrating the 25th anniversary of Columbus House, a shelter and service provider for the homeless of the greater New Haven region. Throughout their 25 years, Columbus House has given countless people the support they need to become self-reliant and productive members of the community, providing a path to recovery and the ability to attain their goals. The shelter was the brain child of Cynthia DeLouise, founding executive director, members of the Downtown Cooperative Ministry and the city of New Haven.

Columbus House opened in November 1982 and provided shelter for its first person in need—a 19-year-old woman who needed housing and food. In the first two years, Columbus House served more than 1,000 individuals. Most all of the beds were filled by men, but in the fall of 1984, Columbus House designated 16 beds specifically for women. It was New Haven's first shelter for homeless men and women. The original mission was to provide basic food and shelter services, however, the organization quickly learned it needed to understand and address the problems that lead to homelessness. Columbus House began to broaden its mission by providing case management services in the areas of mental health, substance abuse, HIV/AIDS, and trauma/abuse. Columbus House has also been nationally recognized for its innovative programs. One such program is the 90-day length of stay program, in which the residents set goals for themselves and develop a timetable in which to achieve them. This program proved to be a powerful incentive tool to enroll clients into counseling and treatment services. Columbus House also charges residents a nominal fee for their stay, a practice which promotes the ultimate goal of self-reliance.

The dual mission of Columbus House is what makes it so unique, remarkable and valuable to the New Haven community. Providing emergency shelter is a critical community service. Columbus House is not only emergency shelter beds; its wide array of shelter services is extraordinary. Its outreach services include a mobile crisis van and outreach workers who try to link the mentally ill with the treatment and services they require. Columbus House also launched the Citizens Project in 1996, which trains formerly homeless individuals to participate on boards and committees of social service agencies. In 2002, it implemented the mentor project which trains people in early recovery to become mentors in social service agencies throughout the community. Columbus House strives to help residents become self-sufficient and able to maintain permanent housing.

In addition to providing counseling job training and medical care Columbus House aims to cultivate a sense of self-worth, self-dignity and self-reliance in those who feel that their

lives are beyond their control. It is rebuilding the client's sense of self that is the key to the program's success. Columbus House gives residents the tools to handle life on their own and to effectively seek resolutions to their problems.

In September 2002, Columbus House literally broke new ground with the opening of its new facility, three times the size of the former shelter. This new shelter building has increased the capacity to 101 beds, doubling the amount of clients it is able to serve. This new building is clean, safe and accessible and provides a sense of pride and accomplishment for the staff, volunteers, and all of the clients.

It is unconscionable to know that homelessness remains a crisis in our communities and across the Nation; people are still hungry, seeking refuge under bridges, and living on our streets. The sad truth is that approximately 33,000 people are homeless in Connecticut, and approximately 2,000 are living in New Haven. Without the caring and compassionate work of the staff and volunteers at Columbus House, these numbers would be even more devastating. I would be remiss if I did not mention the incredible work and creative vision of Alison Cunningham, the executive director of Columbus House since 1998. It is also important to note that volunteers provide some of the most essential services of medical care, dental care, legal counseling, and spiritual guidance. Volunteers over the years have also brought gifts for holidays and have organized various fund-raising events. Our communities would not be the same without the efforts of folks such as these, whose energy, compassion, and commitment touches people's lives every day. I have tremendous admiration for community service and those who provide it.

The work of caring for the homeless has become increasingly difficult. Many people no longer care about the plight of the homeless and are frustrated by the complex issues that contribute to homelessness. I commend Columbus House for facing all of the issues that surround homelessness and continuing to work every day to resolve them for the past 25 years. Congratulations on this remarkable milestone and for all the lives in need that you have quietly touched every day. I thank you, and I am grateful for over two decades of service to the greater New Haven region.

#### A PROCLAMATION HONORING CHARLES DEAN DAVIS FOR HIS SERVICE IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY, 40TH SIGNAL BATTALION

SPEECH OF

##### HON. ZACHARY T. SPACE

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, November 9, 2007*

Mr. SPACE. Madam Speaker:

Whereas, Charles Dean Davis served in the United States Army from 1966–1968; and

Whereas, he served in Vietnam from 1966–1967; and

Whereas, Charles Dean Davis is the recipient of the Vietnam Service Medal; and

Whereas, he is the recipient of the National Defense Service Medal; and

Whereas, Charles Dean Davis is the recipient of the Vietnam Campaign Medal; now, therefore, be it

Resolved that along with his friends, family, and the residents of the 18th Congressional District, I commend and thank Charles Dean Davis for his contributions to his community and country.

#### TRIBUTE TO IRMA WYHS

### HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 13, 2007*

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Irma Wyhs for her service to our community.

For half a century, as a writer, historian and citizen advocate Irma Wyhs has been showing how deeply she cares about her community. She is admired for her adeptness at advising, encouraging, cajoling, and publicizing community leaders and their organizations. Clear Creek Living History Museum, which Irma founded, exemplifies her tenacious spirit.

Ms. Wyhs has left her imprint on many other establishments in our community, such as the Foothills Art Center where she was the first director and the Golden Pioneer Museum.

Irma Wyhs has written for numerous publications, including the history page of the Golden Transcript. Currently she is writing articles for the Fence Post about Zebulon Pike and his descendants to mark the 200th anniversary of his exploration of the Southwest.

#### IN RECOGNITION OF DELAWARE COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE'S AFGHAN-IRAQ VETERANS COMMEMORATIVE TREE

### HON. JOE SESTAK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 13, 2007*

Mr. SESTAK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the planting and dedication of a memorial tree at Delaware County Community College in Media, Pennsylvania. This tree was given in grateful appreciation to Delaware County Community College students who have and will serve as members of the United States Armed Forces in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Since its founding in 1967, countless students from Delaware County Community College have answered the call to duty. These brave young men and women have proudly served our Nation in every conflict fought during the college's 40-year existence, including in the current conflicts in Afghanistan and Iraq. To date, over 100 members of the student body, and at least 300 people who are part of the DCCC community, have served in Afghanistan or Iraq. In addition, many students who are in Reserve or National Guard units expect to be called to active duty in the near future.

The tree planted today honors those who have served. This tree will speak to future generations. It will be a living tribute to those who pass through the College now and in the future that our students, when called upon, proudly responded. The accompanying plaque will be a permanent reminder of the courage and character these students have shown through the service given and sacrifices made for their country.

I would like to acknowledge Dr. Jerry Parker, president of Delaware County College, and Professor Labron K. Shuman for their commitment to the conception, development, and establishment of this remembrance. Their desire to honor the students who have fought for freedom embodies the spirit of true patriotism.

I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the students, faculty, staff, administrators, and alumni of Delaware County Community College who have contributed to the creation of this memorial, and in honoring the veterans to whom the memorial is admirably dedicated.

#### A PROCLAMATION HONORING THE OHIO ARMY NATIONAL GUARD MCCONNELSVILLE-BASED 2ND BATTALION, 174TH AIR DEFENSE ARTILLERY REGIMENT'S HOME-COMING

### HON. ZACHARY T. SPACE

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 13, 2007*

Mr. SPACE. Madam Speaker, Whereas, the Ohio Army National Guard McConnellsville-based 2nd Battalion, 174th Air Defense Artillery Regiment will return home with great pride; and

Whereas, the following members of the 2nd Battalion, 174th Air Defense Artillery Regiment are recognized: Abella, Timothy John Apperson, Cory Allen Armstrong, Adam Reed Babcock, Brian Ray Jr. Baker, Dustin Michael Barnhart, Christopher Lee Boney, Dennis Todd Brookover, Kyle Lee Callahan, Darrick Allen Carr, Matthew Gabriel Cavendish, Jeffrey Brian Collinsworth, Larry Preston Crane, Michael Alan Daniels, Trent Lee Day, Richard Lee Dozer, Zachary Adam Dusenberry, Joshua Robert Eberts, Kevin Shane Elick, Ronald Eugene Eltringham, Alan Lynn Jr. Forrest, Michael Steven J. Franklin, Daniel Johnson French, Ryan Lee Gande, Eric Michael German, Brandon Alan Gottke, Terry Lynn Graves, Garry Brent Grear, David Thomas Grove, Michael Edward Harden, Wesley Curtis Hardesty, Bryan David Harry, Gayle Wayne Jr. Hebb, Randall Lee Hire, Michael Dean Horn, Derek Kennedy Hoskinson, John Mark Hughes, Todd Michael Ickes, Benjamin Joseph Janey, Robert Matthew Johnson, Adam Ray Keiser, Robert Myron II Klass, Wayne Albert Kussmaul, Robert Glenn II Lambert, John Sherman Larrick, Bradley Ricky Lawrence, Luke Wendall Loader, Andrew Thomas Lytton, Robert Earl III McCarty, Jason Ryan McConnell, Matthew James McIntyre, Donald Gail Jr. McQuain, Joshua Ronald Meredith, Curtis David Meredith, Jeffrey Leonard Mettler, Kevin Lloyd Miles, Jason Allen Moore, Thomas Eugene II Nordine, Justin William Norman, Jason Thomas Payton, George William Pyle, Kathy Lynn Roe, Daren Will Russell, John David Schaad, Steven Paul Slifko, James Lewis III Smith, Adam Douglas Smith, April Dawn Spicer, Joseph Alan Stiltner, Aaron Scott Taylor, Michael Allen Taylor, Steven Russell Jr. Thomas, Joshua David Touvell, William Christopher Tracy, Adam Joshua Tracy, Dustin Jay Waggy, Jason Eric Wagstaff, Christopher Frank Wells, Michael Dean Jr. Williams, Shane Casey Wilson, Joel Alan and Yinger, Steven Mark.

Whereas, they have done an extraordinary job supporting Operation Noble Eagle in the National Capital Region; and

Whereas, they will reflect with great pride on achieving the highest average during training on the Norwegian Advanced Surface to Air Missile System; be it

Resolved that along with friends, family, and the residents of the 18th Congressional District, I commend the Ohio Army National Guard McConnellsville-based 2nd Battalion, 174th Air Defense Artillery Regiment for their commitment, recognizing that all great achievements are a result of dedication. With great appreciation and respect, I wish you continued success.

#### TRIBUTE TO KATHERINE REDMOND

### HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 13, 2007*

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Ms. Katherine Redmond for her service to our community.

Kathy Redmond was the first person to use Title IX as a remedy for rape by an athlete in a higher education institution. Her Title IX case against the University of Nebraska and the rape perpetrators was settled in 1997.

Shortly afterwards, she formed the National Coalition Against Violent Athletes. Kathy has forged herself as a national expert in athlete violence and response, and counseled more than 250 women affected by athlete violence. Intent upon eradicating the problem, she has started INTERCEPT, a 3-day violence prevention and response program for athletes.

Kathy volunteers for the First Judicial District attorney's office diversion program teaching victim empathy to men in the program. She has also authored and lobbied rape shield legislation.

#### INTRODUCING LEGISLATION TO HONOR THEODOR CRIVEANU FOR SAVING ROMANIAN JEWS DURING THE HOLOCAUST

### HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 13, 2007*

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Madam Speaker, I am pleased to rise today to introduce legislation with my colleagues and friends Representatives DAN BURTON, CHRIS SMITH, and LINDA SÁNCHEZ that will properly recognize the selfless efforts to save innocent lives during the Holocaust of Theodor Criveanu and all other righteous individuals.

Non-Jews who sacrificed their lives in an effort to save Jews from their fate at the Nazi's hands are known to the world as the "Righteous Persons." The most renowned among these righteous persons is probably Oscar Schindler. Oscar Schindler should rightly be recognized as the altruistic and extraordinarily courageous non-Jew who saved more Jewish lives from the gas chambers than any other.

But many other brave individuals risked their lives by rescuing Jews during the Holocaust that have still yet to be recognized.

Thousands of these hero's stories have remain untold because the Nazis mercilessly ended their lives. For those that survived the Holocaust and for those that did not, I rise today to honor their heroism and their memory.

In 1963, Yad Vashem, the Holocaust Martyrs' and Heroes' Remembrance Authority in Israel, initiated a worldwide project to grant the title of Righteous Among the Nations to individuals who were not Jewish and who risked their lives to rescue and protect Jews and others during the Holocaust. To date, more than 21,000 heroic individuals have been honored as Righteous Among the Nations.

Theodor Criveanu was one of such courageous righteous individuals.

When serving as a reserve officer in the Romanian military, he was assigned the task of presenting military authorities with a list of Jews who would be given work permits to work in the ghetto instead of being deported to Transnistria. Risking his life to defy Nazi orders, Mr. Criveanu secretly issued work permits in numbers that exceeded the work permit quota and to Jews who were not essential to the workforce, saving countless of innocent Jewish lives.

The brave efforts of Mr. Criveanu have not gone unnoticed. On August 8, 2007, Yad Vashem named Theodore Criveanu as Righteous Among the Nations, posthumously honoring him for his courageous work to block the deportation of Romanian Jews to Nazi death camps.

Today I rise to honor these individuals for their bravery and humanity. Mr. Criveanu and other such individuals deserve to be remembered and revered by the United States Congress.

#### A PROCLAMATION HONORING THE 90TH ANNIVERSARY OF DOVER BAPTIST CHURCH

##### HON. ZACHARY T. SPACE

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 13, 2007*

Mr. SPACE. Madam Speaker:

Whereas, the dedicated people of the Dover Baptist Church celebrates the 90th anniversary with great joy; and

Whereas, occasions such as these illustrate to us that love mixed with grace and trust will stand the test of time; and

Whereas, it is the fond wish of this body that you will continue to present this work as a beacon for hope to the destitute and maintain your stand as a symbol to this generation that our strength lies in our gracious commitment in unity to each other in the bonds of brotherhood; now, therefore, be it

Resolved that along with his friends, family, and the residents of the 18th Congressional District, I commend the congregation for your unwavering commitment, recognizing that all great achievements come from great dedication. With great appreciation and respect, we recognize the tremendous impact this congregation has had in the community and in the lives of those people you have touched.

#### TRIBUTE TO CLARENE SHELLEY

##### HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 13, 2007*

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Ms. Clarene Shelley for her service to our community.

When Lakewood's first mayor swore Clarene Shelley into the Lakewood Department of Public Safety in 1972, she became the department's first female agent. When she retired, she held the position of division chief of the city of Lakewood Police Department.

Upon graduation from the Denver Police Academy, Clarene Shelley was assigned to the Investigations Division, where she made her mark by working cases of family abuse, child abuse and juvenile crime. As a sergeant, she developed investigative procedures for child abuse cases that were adopted by all of the agencies in Jefferson County. In 1989, the American Association of University Women named her "Police Woman of the Year," a title that she was awarded several times.

Ms. Shelley's leadership was instrumental in developing better methods of recruiting, hiring and training. She trained thousands of people in the academy, the FBI, hospitals and many other organizations. She also began Lakewood's first Youth Police Academy and headed the Jefferson County Officer Involved Shooting Investigations Team.

It's said Clarene Shelley was at her best when helping others: offering support, giving sound advice, and celebrating the successes of those she mentored.

#### A PROCLAMATION HONORING 186TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE QUINN CHAPEL A.M.E. CHURCH

##### HON. ZACHARY T. SPACE

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 13, 2007*

Mr. SPACE. Madam Speaker:

Whereas, the dedicated people of the Quinn Chapel A.M.E. Church of Chillicothe, Ohio celebrates the 186th anniversary of the Quinn Chapel A.M.E. Church with great joy; and

Whereas, this occasion is a time to look back at the origins of the church and appreciate how much it has grown from the first days; and

Whereas, occasions such as these illustrate to us that love mixed with grace and trust will stand the test of time; and

Whereas, it is the fond wish of this body that you will continue to present this work as a beacon for hope to the destitute and maintain your stand as a symbol to this generation that our strength lies in our gracious commitment in unity to each other in the bonds of brotherhood; now, therefore, be it

Resolved that along with his friends, family, and the residents of the 18th Congressional District, I commend the congregation for your unwavering commitment, recognizing that all great achievements come from great dedication. With great appreciation and respect, we recognize the tremendous impact this congregation has had in the community and in the lives of those people you have touched.

#### IN REMEMBRANCE OF TROY LEE JAMES

##### HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 13, 2007*

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Troy Lee James, a former laborer and union member, and the longest serving Democrat in the Ohio House of Representatives.

Born in Texarkana, Texas, Troy was the youngest of 18 children. He joined relatives in Cleveland after serving in World War II, in which he earned a Purple Heart for the wounds he suffered while fighting with the U.S. Army in Belgium.

Troy represented Cleveland for 34 years in the Ohio House, leaving his seat only because term limits forced him to retire in 2000. He proudly served as chairman of the Economic Development and Small Business Committee as well as the Aging and Housing Committee. He served on the Rules Committee and was the Ranking Minority Member of the Housing and Urban Affairs Committee.

Troy was a beloved shopkeeper and champion of Cleveland's Central neighborhood, and he was a devoted member of Antioch Baptist Church for more than 50 years. In 2003, the Ohio General Assembly named interstate 490, the short highway running south of downtown Cleveland, the Troy Lee James Highway.

Troy is survived by his wife Alice, his Daughter Laura, two grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

Madam Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honoring Troy Lee James, an enthusiastic member of the Cleveland community and dedicated servant of the Ohio government. May his commitment to Cleveland serve as an example to all of us.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

##### HON. LINCOLN DAVIS

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 13, 2007*

Mr. LINCOLN DAVIS of Tennessee. Madam Speaker, on Friday, November 9, 2007, I was absent from the House in order to attend to an illness in my family.

#### THE TOUGHEST BEAT IN AMERICA

##### HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 13, 2007*

Mr. POE. Madam Speaker, in September of this year, corrections officer Susan Canfield was murdered just outside of Huntsville, Texas by two inmates who had escaped a Huntsville prison facility.

In what some might call ironic timing, a report by the Dallas Morning News came out the following month that said assaults on prison guards have doubled over the last five years. Over 36 staff member were assaulted this year, up from 18 in 2003. To further compound this problem, turnover of staff is at a

record high with one in four leaving the department last year alone.

Officials believe these problems have been caused by low wages, staff shortages, and a tougher breed of criminals entering the prison system. Salaries for prison guards in Texas begin at \$23,040 and top out at \$33,948. This is one of the lowest pay scales nationally for prison guards. As a result, people are leaving the field or not entering it at all. The Texas Department of Criminal Justice workforce was down almost 4,000 employees in August. This means facilities are more vulnerable and employees are at increased danger for attacks.

This is unacceptable. We need to make sure our prison system is secure so that our prison guards and staff can go to work without fear of being assaulted and we need to make working conditions better for these people who have some of the toughest jobs in society, to protect our communities from dangerous criminals.

The toughest beat in America is the one assigned to our prison guards who watch those who have committed crimes against our people. We owe these guards our greatest appreciation.

And that's just the way it is.

#### TRIBUTE TO HIGHLANDS HIGH SCHOOL

### HON. GEOFF DAVIS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 13, 2007*

Mr. DAVIS of Kentucky. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the academic achievements of Highlands High School in Ft. Thomas, KY. Recently, Highlands High School was announced by the U.S. Department of Education as a recipient of the 2007 Blue Ribbon Award.

The Blue Ribbon Award was presented to 287 distinguished schools nationwide and I am pleased that Highlands High School was one of four from Kentucky's Fourth Congressional District.

Highlands has worked hard in advancing its curriculum and performance of its students to ensure that they are some of the best and brightest in our Nation. This is an accomplishment that deserves great praise for the students, parents and teachers. In a world where we are facing competition from abroad and we frequently hear that our students are lagging behind, Kentucky's Blue Ribbon schools are forging ahead.

I would also like to highlight the fact that Highlands is ranked in the Top 1000 High Schools by U.S. News & World Report. Furthermore, Highlands' commitment to educational excellence shines through in its "Cum Laude chapter" that stresses not only academic, but civic and community involvement. The awards and accomplishments received by the high school are tremendous reflections of the dedication and commitment of the entire Highlands High School community.

#### INTRODUCTION OF AMERICAN BRAILLE FLAG MEMORIAL BILL

### HON. TODD TIAHRT

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 13, 2007*

Mr. TIAHRT. Madam Speaker, our Nation has over 1,000,000 blind and low-vision veterans, and those numbers continue to rise. The Department of Defense estimates that 16 percent of those injured in Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom suffer from severe vision loss. An additional 10–12 million Americans have blind and low vision.

Prior to the creation of the Braille American flag, the American flag was not accessible to the blind. This flag, created by the Kansas Braille Transcription Institute in Wichita, Kansas, has been specially designed in a way that informs the blind of the full color of the American flag, 13 stripes, and 50 stars on the blue field. Additionally, this tactile flag bears the Pledge of Allegiance in both raised print and grade one braille.

Today, I am introducing legislation that calls for the Army to place a Braille American flag at Arlington National Cemetery. Arlington National Cemetery is a national place of remembrance and honor for our Nation's veterans and is visited by an estimated 4 million people annually. Placing the Braille American flag there would bring honor to our Nation's blind community and allow our blind veterans to "see" the American flag again.

Madam Speaker, I am honored this legislation has been endorsed by the Blind Veterans of America, and I look forward to quick action by the Congress on the bill. We owe a huge debt of gratitude towards those who have served, and this simple action will mean much to our patriotic blind veterans. I encourage my colleagues to join me in supporting this effort in placing the Braille American flag at Arlington National Cemetery.

#### FREEDOM FOR DR. JOSE LUIS GARCÍA PANEQUE

### HON. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 13, 2007*

Mr. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART. Madam Speaker, I rise today to remind my colleagues about Dr. Jose Luis García Paneque, a political prisoner in totalitarian Cuba.

Dr. García Paneque is a surgeon by training, an independent journalist and a member of the Cuban Independent Medical Association. As a director of the independent news agency Libertad, and administrator of the Carlos J. Finlay independent library in Las Tunas, Cuba, Dr. García Paneque has devoted his life efforts to exposing the truth about the horrors inflicted upon the Cuban people by the dictatorship in Havana.

Dr. García Paneque was arrested on March 18, 2003 as part of the tyrant's island wide crackdown on peaceful pro-democracy activists. On April 4, 2003, in a sham trial, Dr. García Paneque was sentenced to 24 years in totalitarian squalor for no reason other than that he is a supporter of freedom and democ-

racy who has worked to expose the depraved horror that is the Cuban tyranny.

Since his initial incarceration in the sub-human conditions of the tyranny's totalitarian dungeons, Dr. García Paneque's weight has dropped from a healthy 190 pounds to an emaciated 110 pounds. Dr. García Paneque has been thrown in the hellish dungeons to languish in conditions so abhorrent that he has had to be hospitalized multiple times while incarcerated. Currently, he suffers from chronic diarrhea, severe abdominal pain, and poor intestinal absorption, resulting from what can only be described as a chronic malnutrition.

While imprisoned in the totalitarian dungeon, Dr. García Paneque has endured constant physical and psychological torture at the hands of regime thugs. Although he has not committed a crime, he is forced to live with common prisoners who have gone as far as to have made threats against his life, threats that the regime's thugs refuse to acknowledge as part of their constant effort to avoid having to take action to ensure his safety. After months of writhing in pain it was discovered that Dr. García Paneque had developed a 36 to 38-mm cyst on one of his kidneys. The prison doctors, who had previously ignored his cries for medical attention, claimed that surgery to remove the cyst would be required. Although his condition is perilous and there exists a serious risk that Dr. García Paneque may not survive the abdominal surgery, regime authorities refuse to grant him a consultation with doctors not affiliated with the prison, and he has yet to receive proper medical treatment for his condition.

Members of Dr. García Paneque's family, including his four children, have been repeatedly harassed. In August 2006, a regime mob of more than 50 people armed with sticks and stones surrounded the family's home, chanting insults and threatening to burn it down. In March of 2007, fearing for the life of her children who had already endured innumerable acts of psychological torture, Dr. García Paneque's wife, Yamilé Llanes Labrada, an active member of the Ladies in White, was forced to flee Cuba with her children. This is another tragic example of life under the totalitarian regime in Cuba.

On October 24, 2007, Dr. García Paneque's wife, and his daughter Shirlen, were received and honored by President George W. Bush at the White House, where the President publicly called upon the regime to release Dr. García Paneque forthwith. The President informed me personally after his meeting with Dr. García Paneque's family that he was deeply impressed and moved by their heroic examples of courage and patriotism.

Despite the gangster tactics and heinous threats against him, Dr. García Paneque continues to demand human rights and dignity for the people of Cuba. He is languishing in the squalor of the infernal gulag, at the whim of a merciless tyrant, simply because he believes in freedom, truth, democracy, and human rights for the people of Cuba.

Madam Speaker, it is unconscionable that journalists and physicians like Dr. García Paneque are locked in dungeons for writing the truth. My colleagues, we must demand the immediate and unconditional release of Jose Luis García Paneque and every political prisoner in totalitarian Cuba.

ST. JOSEPH CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

**HON. SAM GRAVES**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 13, 2007*

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize St. Joseph Christian School located in St. Joseph, MO. This school will be celebrating its 20th anniversary of service to the community on Thursday, November 15, 2007.

As a staple of the community throughout the years, the school has experienced growth and expansion with the community it serves. From humble beginnings, Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Gregory founded the school with 10 teachers and 135 students enrolled. Since then, St. Joseph Christian School has become accredited with the Association of Christian Schools International and the Committee for Accredited Schools Non-public, through the University of Missouri at Columbia.

Currently, St. Joseph Christian School serves over 340 students, coming from 60 different churches in the community, and offers classes starting from preschool to 12th grade. This school's curriculum incorporates biblical and scholarly learning, in order to help students both achieve academic success and further their spiritual development.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in recognizing the St. Joseph Christian School. The educational and spiritual services that they have provided over these 20 years have been fundamental to shaping student's lives. Let us use St. Joseph Christian School as a powerful example of the lasting commitment to education and faith.

TRIBUTE TO COVINGTON  
CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

**HON. GEOFF DAVIS**

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 13, 2007*

Mr. DAVIS of Kentucky. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the academic achievements of Covington Catholic High School in Covington, Kentucky. Recently, Covington Catholic was announced by the U.S. Department of Education as a recipient of the 2007 Blue Ribbon Award.

The Blue Ribbon Award was presented to 287 distinguished schools nationwide and I am pleased that Covington Catholic was one of four from Kentucky's Fourth Congressional District.

Covington Catholic has worked hard in advancing its curriculum and performance of its students to ensure that they are some of the best and brightest in our Nation. This is an accomplishment that deserves great praise for the students, parents and teachers. In a world where we are facing competition from abroad and we frequently hear that our students are lagging behind, Covington Catholic is forging ahead.

I would especially like to acknowledge Covington Catholic's commitment to improving its students' well-being both in and out of the classroom. Covington Catholic encourages the young men attending the school to get involved and help make their community a bet-

ter place. Covington Catholic also encourages moral and spiritual development in its students to ensure their successful transition from childhood into adulthood. In providing a well-rounded education for Kentucky's young men, Covington Catholic is helping to ensure the continued success of our Commonwealth. I applaud their dedication and thank the students, teachers and parents of the Covington Catholic Community for all that they do.

**NBA GREAT ELVIN HAYES****HON. TED POE**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 13, 2007*

Mr. POE. Madam Speaker, today I am proud to recognize NBA great Elvin Hayes. The basketball star known as the "Big E", from Rayville, Louisiana, was one of the most talented power forwards to play the game. His notorious turnaround jump shot, aggressive defense, and outspoken demeanor were legendary and earned him a place in the NBA record books.

He first picked up a basketball in the eighth grade when a teacher put him on the school basketball team. Although he initially showed no proclivity for sports, he was determined to improve. He spent his summers practicing and developing his skills. By the time he attended Eula Britton High School in Rayville; he averaged 35 points per game and led his team to 54 straight wins.

Basketball became an opportunity for a better life for Hayes. He was recruited by more than 100 colleges, and chose the University of Houston, where he became one of the first African-American athletes. In college, he debuted on the national basketball scene and was able to hone his game, and establish a style that would eventually make him a feared NBA player.

Hayes became a three-time All-American, leading the Houston Cougars to an 81-12 record and two Final Four appearances. Basketball fans across the country watched this nationally televised college game as he and his University of Houston teammates defeated UCLA and Lew Alcindor, later known as Kareem Abdul-Jabbar, in "the game of the century" at the Astrodome. I was one of the 50,000 plus fans at the Astrodome watching the University of Houston defeat the #1 ranked and undefeated UCLA Bruins. In his college career, Hayes scored 2,884 points, 31 points per game, 1,602 rebounds, with 17 rebounds per game, and was named the 1968 college player of the year. Before retiring in 1984, he returned to the Houston Rockets for three seasons. Hayes' NBA accomplishments include leading the league in scoring in '69; All-NBA first team in '75, '77 & '79; All-NBA Defensive Team in '74 & '75; and twelve-time NBA All-Star from '69-80. He scored 27,313 points, averaging 21 points per game in 1,303 professional games; he grabbed 16,279 rebounds; played more minutes than any player in history; and ranked third all-time in games played and blocked shots. In 1990, he was inducted to the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame, and in 1996, he was named to the NBA 50th Anniversary All-Time Team, and was chosen as one of professional basketball's top five players during the NBA's 50th anniversary celebration.

When I served on the bench as a Judge in Texas, I recruited Elvin Hayes to coach a team of probationers in a basketball match against a team from the Houston police department. He agreed to coach this goodwill game although the police department team won.

Life has definitely gone on after basketball for the "BIG E." After his all-star college and NBA career, Hayes returned to the University of Houston to complete his college education, and became a successful businessman. Today, at age 60, he has set his sights on yet another challenge, one that fulfills a childhood dream. On October 16, he completed a nine-month peace officer training program and joined the Liberty County Texas Sheriff's Department as a reserve deputy sheriff. He admits that years ago, when he sat on one of my grand juries, the law enforcement seed was watered.

Legendary coach Al McGuire taught Hayes that a successful person is one who can do something great, go on to something else, and be successful in the next field too. That philosophy was branded in the "Big E's" mind. All of his college, NBA, and business accomplishments shaped and changed his life. Basketball taught him discipline, teamwork, and hard work, making him one of the NBA's 50 greatest basketball players. He took the lessons learned on the court to the business world when he opened a car dealership. From the business world, he learned a very important formula; integrity, commitment and a caring heart. He now uses that formula in law enforcement, where he is once again part of a team, where each member compliments the abilities of fellow law enforcement officers.

Hayes will be patrolling Liberty County as a reserve deputy sheriff, for 20 hours each month. Like everything else in his life, he is very committed to it. Accomplishing his childhood dream of becoming a police officer is one of the most gratifying and rewarding feelings he has ever had, even topping an NBA championship! The training process was more challenging than he expected. He had to learn countless codes, laws, and cases. You see, Texas has the highest standards of law enforcement than any other state, requiring 809 class work and physical training hours. In basketball, you have physical challenges, but training to be a peace officer was mentally and physically challenging. The "Big E" is a goal setter, and his goal now is to become one of the top law enforcement officers.

His first few weeks as a reserve deputy sheriff have been very quiet so far, but Hayes would never call it routine, since "routine" traffic stops in law enforcement can be some of the most dangerous. His 6'9" frame usually helps deter people from making bad decisions, but he knows that some people will feel threatened by his height and want to prove themselves. Law enforcement officers prefer to use verbal means to communicate, instead of physical means, but Hayes has been trained and is prepared for whatever situations may unfold.

Hayes will deal with those who invite him into his life by breaking the law, but he will also work with kids to help them set and achieve positive goals, so they can be productive citizens. He is a law enforcer, but is definitely willing to be a mentor to today's youth. He will visit schools and talk to kids to counter the messages they hear in today's rap music.



He hopes to convey that those who desire a family unit can obtain one through positive means. Since there is a shortage of police officers, he encourages young people to consider a career in law enforcement, which allows individuals to focus on making their communities a positive place to live. There are more prisons being built in our country than schools; and Hayes would like to do his part to see that change, by keeping kids out of the criminal justice system.

Hayes encourages young people to be themselves. "Don't try to be like someone else, don't try to emulate what you hear in rap music; don't try to do what you see basketball players doing. Pick a goal and each and every day, do something to try to accomplish that goal. Hard work, dedication, and sacrifice are the formula for success!"

The extremely popular basketball star, businessman, and reserve deputy sheriff believes that in life you should "continuously look for challenges." The reserve deputy position is another way for him to set a positive example for young people. Not everyone can be a professional athlete, a rapper, or actor, but everyone can give back to the community.

I am proud to recognize my friend, Elvin Hayes for his accomplishments on and off of the basketball court. He is a role model for us all, and a shining example of hard work, determination, and service to the community.

That's just the way it is.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION  
OF H.R. 3685, EMPLOYMENT NON-  
DISCRIMINATION ACT OF 2007

SPEECH OF

**HON. TODD TIAHRT**

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 7, 2007*

Mr. TIAHRT. Madam Speaker, I rise today in opposition to H.R. 3685, the Employment Non-Discrimination Act (ENDA). H.R. 3685 would extend existing employment-discrimination provisions of Federal law, including those in Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, to establish "a comprehensive Federal prohibition of employment discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation."

Although I join with all my colleagues in abhorrence to bigotry and discrimination, this disingenuous and vaguely-constructed overhaul of labor law is inconsistent with the free exercise of religion and weaken the fundamental Defense of Marriage Act.

The right to the free exercise of religion found in the Constitution, and as codified by Congress in the Religious Freedom Restoration Act (RFRA), must be firmly upheld. It is a cornerstone of our Nation's founding and our future. Our Government must not take any action that unduly burdens the free exercise of religion. Unfortunately, the ENDA does not live up to this constitutional standard. America's churches, synagogues, and religious non-profit organizations must maintain the right to employ those that share their particular religious or moral worldview. Although the sponsors of this act claim that the religious exemptions found in the legislation are adequate, they are simply not strong enough to pass constitutional muster or fulfill legislative intent in the RFRA.

Madam Speaker, ENDA would also weaken the landmark Defense of Marriage Act (DOMA) by giving Federal statutory significance to same-sex marriage rights under State law. Federal law states that marriage is between one man and one woman. Maintaining DOMA is essential in defending the sanctity of marriage. However, the passage of ENDA will provide activist judges around the country the legal ammunition to undermine state and federal marriage laws. Courts in New Jersey, Vermont, and Massachusetts have all used state legislation similar to ENDA as a springboard for mandating same-sex marriage or civil unions. In 2005 Kansas overwhelmingly passed the Traditional Marriage Amendment by 70 percent. The people of Kansas have spoken. With the path is so clearly defined in history, it would be irresponsible for Congress to pass ENDA.

Madam Speaker, bigotry and discrimination is clearly wrong. However, tampering with such bedrock legal and constitutional standards such as the freedom of religion and DOMA is not the right solution. I urge my colleagues to join with me in opposing this legislation.

TRIBUTE TO WESTCHESTER ELE-  
MENTARY AND TO CONWAY ELE-  
MENTARY

**HON. W. TODD AKIN**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 13, 2007*

Mr. AKIN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Westchester Elementary in the Kirkwood School District and Conway Elementary in the Ladue School District of St. Louis, Missouri. These two schools were recently awarded the prestigious title of No Child Left Behind Blue Ribbon Schools.

As many of my colleagues know, the No Child Left Behind-Blue Ribbon Schools Program honors public and private K-12 schools that are either academically superior in their states or that demonstrate dramatic gains in student achievement.

In 2007, only 5 Missouri schools and 287 nationwide have earned the high honor of Blue Ribbon Schools.

It is the efforts and demand for excellence exemplified by Westchester and Conway Elementary that will pave the way for the successful futures of our Nation's children.

I applaud the dedication of teachers and staff at Westchester and Conway. I sincerely hope their high standards of teaching are emulated by other schools in Missouri.

I am pleased to be able to honor Westchester and Conway Elementary today. They are remarkable examples of the great teachers we have in Missouri and I ask my colleagues to join me in wishing them the best in their future endeavors as educators in Missouri.

TRIBUTE TO THE BLESSED  
SACRAMENT SCHOOL

**HON. GEOFF DAVIS**

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 13, 2007*

Mr. DAVIS of Kentucky. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the academic achievements of Blessed Sacrament School in Ft. Mitchell, KY.

Recently, Blessed Sacrament was announced by the U.S. Department of Education as a recipient of the 2007 Blue Ribbon Award.

The Blue Ribbon Award was presented to 287 distinguished schools nationwide and I am pleased that Blessed Sacrament School was 1 of 4 from Kentucky's Fourth Congressional District.

Blessed Sacrament has worked hard in advancing its curriculum and performance of its students to ensure that they are some of the best and brightest in our Nation. This is an accomplishment that deserves great praise for the students, parents and teachers. In a world where we are facing competition from abroad and we frequently hear that our students are lagging behind, Kentucky's Blue Ribbon recipients are forging ahead.

I would like to acknowledge Blessed Sacrament's ardent dedication to developing a well-rounded learning environment for each of its students. There is no place more deserving of the motto "Where Kids Come First" than Blessed Sacrament School. Aside from an exceptional classroom learning experience, Blessed Sacrament also promotes spiritual growth in each of its students. Every day, the teachers and faculty at Blessed Sacrament strive to help its students achieve their goals in the hopes of giving them a bright future. The teachers, students and parents at Blessed Sacrament should be applauded for their hard work in becoming a Blue Ribbon recipient. In Blessed Sacrament, the Commonwealth of Kentucky has a fine educational institution that will serve our communities for years to come.

ON THE OCCASION OF THE 50TH  
ANNIVERSARY OF NATIONAL  
KEY DEER REFUGE

**HON. ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 13, 2007*

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Madam Speaker, this year, members of the conservation community, Keys residents, and nature enthusiasts celebrate the 50th Anniversary of the National Key Deer Refuge. This federally protected area is home to the imperiled tropical hardwood hammock and 22 endangered and threatened species of plants and animals, five of which are found nowhere else on the planet.

As the Member of Congress representing all four of the Florida Keys National Wildlife Refuges, I am well aware of the vital role these refuges play in preserving our natural habitats, promoting scientific research and technology, and educating our communities as to the importance of conserving endangered and threatened fish, wildlife and plants.

Of the endangered and threatened species in the area, the Key Deer have tremendously



benefited from the creation of the Refuge. Thanks largely to the incredible efforts of local leaders, volunteers, and the dedicated Refuge staff—especially Jack Watson and Anne Morkill—the Key Deer population has been rescued from almost certain extinction.

While much has been accomplished in the last 50 years, a great task still lies ahead. The call to protect our natural habitats should be a responsibility shared by all members of our community. The Refuge's new administration building a structure rebuilt following the devastating storms of 2005—will play an important role in further educating the public as to the importance of this area to our Keys ecosystem but our global ecology, as well.

I look forward to working with you all to accomplish yet another successful 50 years of wildlife conservation on the National Key Deer Refuge. By working together, we can ensure that our Refuge remains a staple of Keys conservation efforts and an area for future generations to explore and enjoy.

#### OPPOSING THE PRESIDENT'S VETO OF THE LABOR-HHS-EDUCATION APPROPRIATIONS BILL

**HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN**

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 13, 2007*

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Madam Speaker, I am disappointed that the President chose today to veto important funding for our domestic priorities. After seven years of unrestrained spending and a ballooning deficit, the President has, under the guise of fiscal responsibility, rejected a \$6.2 billion funding increase for education, health care, and workforce development, even as he requests nearly \$200 billion in unbudgeted, no strings attached funding to continue the Iraq War for another year. That is no way to balance America's checkbook.

Under the budget passed by the new Democratic Congress, we can take care of America at home—increase funding for our schools, offer more student assistance for college, invest in biomedical research at NIH, expand health care access, and help Americans compete in the global economy—and balance the budget by 2012. These priorities are America's priorities. It is time for Congress to come together, stand up for the American people and override this veto.

#### EDUCATION AND LABOR COM- MITTEE STAFF DOES EXCEL- LENT JOB ON ENDA REPORT

**HON. BARNEY FRANK**

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 13, 2007*

Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts. Madam Speaker, during the debate on the Employment Non-Discrimination Act, critics of the bill—both those who objected that it did too little and those who claimed that it did too much—made a number of arguments about the bill that were flatly wrong. Fortunately, under the leadership of the chairman of the committee, the gentleman from California Mr. MILLER, and the Chairman of the sub-

committee, the gentleman from New Jersey Mr. ANDREWS, the staff of that committee did a first-rate report rebutting those inaccurate criticisms. Often, reports of this sort, while reflecting a great deal of work, are ignored. In this case, Professor Dale Carpenter, a law professor who has been an excellent source of accurate information about the true meaning of the legislation, called attention to the committee staffs work in a recent internet posting.

Madam Speaker, as Professor Carpenter points out, "This sort of legislative history does not dispose of controversies over the meaning of ENDA. But it does offer a reasonable and persuasive interpretation of the bill that will likely play a role in future litigation. The committee legal counsel who worked on this report anticipated many of the objections to ENDA from President Bush's advisors and from transgender and gay activists . . . They did an extraordinary job walking the fine line between an interpretation of ENDA that is unduly crabbed and one that is objectionably expansive."

Madam Speaker, in the interest of disseminating in the widest possible way the accurate interpretation of ENDA that is reflected in this report, the importance of which is underlined by Professor Carpenter, I ask that the part of Professor Carpenter's posting dealing with the report be printed here.

Excerpt from Professor Dale Carpenter's internet posting:

Little noticed in the run-up to the House vote was the Labor Committee report that accompanied the bill. The report was prepared by attorneys who work for the committee. Much of the report is devoted to recounting the history of the numerous attempts over the past 33 years—beginning with the first bill introduced by Bella Abzug in 1974—to get Congress to deal with anti-gay employment discrimination. That history tells a story of painfully slow political progress made in each session of Congress, with more co-sponsors backing an anti-discrimination bill in every session. Other parts of the report document the prevalence of anti-gay job discrimination, as well as the economic and psychological impact of such discrimination.

In the section-by-section analysis of the committee report, I noticed a couple of passages relevant to the recent controversy over adding "gender identity" to the bill. On p. 31, the report notes that ENDA forbids discrimination based on "actual or perceived sexual orientation." Thus, "ENDA creates a cause of action for any individual—whether actually homosexual or heterosexual—who is discriminated against because that individual is 'perceived' as homosexual due to the fact that the individual does not conform to the sex or gender stereotypes associated with the individual's sex." Obviously, this interpretation of ENDA offers some protection to those employees whose gender non-conformity leads others to assume they're gay or lesbian and then suffer discrimination on that basis. It doesn't protect transsexuals or crossdressers as fully as adding "gender identity" to the bill would have, but the bill moves in that direction.

Additionally, on p. 33, the report puts to rest any fears that stripping "gender identity" from the bill would lead federal courts to conclude that Congress meant to implicitly reverse *Price Waterhouse v. Hopkins*, a 1989 case in which the Supreme Court held that sex stereotyping violates Title VII. The report concludes that Section 15 of ENDA, entitled "Relationship to Other Laws":

Preserves provisions in other Federal, state, or local laws that currently provide protection from discrimination. For example, Congress does not intend to overrule, displace, or in any other way affect any U.S. Supreme Court or other federal court opinion that has interpreted Title VII in such a way that protects individuals who are discriminated against because they do not conform to sex or gender stereotypes. See, e.g., *Price Waterhouse v. Hopkins*, 490 U.S. 228 (1989) (female plaintiff brought successful Title VII claim after she was denied partnership in an accounting firm because she did not conform to female sex stereotype); *Nichols v. Azteca Rest. Enters.*, 256 F.3d 864 (9th Cir. 2001) (male plaintiff brought successful Title VII claim after he was subjected to a hostile work environment because he failed to conform to a male stereotype)."

This sort of legislative history does not dispose of controversies over the meaning of ENDA. But it does offer a reasonable and persuasive interpretation of the bill that will likely play a role in future litigation. The committee legal counsel who worked on this report anticipated many of the objections to ENDA from President Bush's advisors and from transgender and gay activists disappointed that the bill isn't more comprehensive. They did an extraordinary job walking the fine line between an interpretation of ENDA that is unduly crabbed and one that is objectionably expansive.

ENDA is the product of decades of work by gay advocates whose efforts once seemed quixotic. In 1974, Abzug's bill had only four co-sponsors and was completely ignored by the House Judiciary Committee. Yesterday 235 members of the House backed the same basic idea.

#### TRIBUTE TO VILLA MADONNA ACADEMY

**HON. GEOFF DAVIS**

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 13, 2007*

Mr. DAVIS of Kentucky. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the academic achievements of Villa Madonna Academy Elementary and Junior High School in Villa Hills, KY.

Recently, Villa Madonna was announced by the U.S. Department of Education as a recipient of the 2007 Blue Ribbon Award.

The Blue Ribbon Award was presented to 287 distinguished schools nationwide and I am pleased that Villa Madonna Academy was one of four from Kentucky's Fourth Congressional District.

Villa Madonna has worked hard in advancing its curriculum and performance of its students to ensure that they are some of the best and brightest in our Nation. This is an accomplishment that deserves great praise for the students, parents, and teachers. In a world where we are facing competition from abroad and we frequently hear that our students are lagging behind, Villa Madonna is forging ahead.

I would especially like to acknowledge Villa Madonna's commitment to its enrichment program, which works to ensure its students have a diversified experience in art, music, physical education, and world cultures. This program, coupled with its academic excellence, is why the Villa Madonna Academy continues to exemplify greatness in Kentucky's schools.